



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 12 March 2007

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

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## Daily Highlights

- Reuters reports the Nuclear Regulatory Commission approved Thursday, March 8, the first site in over 30 years that could eventually house a new nuclear power plant, in Clinton, Illinois. (See item [2](#))
- The Boston Globe reports scientists have discovered that a new strain of norovirus is responsible for the wave of intense gastrointestinal infections that have overwhelmed hospitals, nursing homes, and college dormitories across the nation this winter. (See item [23](#))

## DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

**Production Industries:** [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

**Service Industries:** [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *March 09, Reuters* — **Brazil, U.S. agree to promote biofuel production.** Brazil and the United States agreed on Friday, March 9, to cooperate in promoting biofuels production in the Americas and other regions, saying it would help to clean up the global environment and to alleviate poverty. The ethanol accord was the centerpiece of President Bush's visit to Brazil, the first leg of a Latin American tour aimed at winning back friends in a region where his administration is unpopular and where Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez is using his country's oil wealth to promote a socialist revolution.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN0945986920070309?src=030>

2. *March 08, Reuters* — **U.S. approves early site permit for nuclear power plant.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approved Thursday, March 8, the first site in over 30 years that could eventually house a new nuclear power plant, but the United States is still far away from breaking ground on any new reactors. The NRC's action clears the location for a new nuclear reactor but does not yet approve building a specific reactor. Exelon Corp., which sought the agency's first-ever early site permit in September 2003, would have up to 20 years to seek a license from the NRC to build and operate a reactor at the company's Clinton, IL, site, where it already has one nuclear reactor generating electricity. Exelon has no plans in the short term to build another reactor at the site, a company spokesperson said.  
Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/business/20070308-1104-us-a-nuclear-permit.html>
3. *March 08, Kansas City Star* — **Kansas City Board of Public Utilities says leaked document may lead to big costs and delay in building plant.** A local utility may have to delay construction of a power plant after a leaked confidential document identified possible violations of federal clean-air laws, utility officials said Wednesday, March 7. Kansas City, KA, Board of Public Utilities (BPU) officials also acknowledged in an interview that the document's release had prompted them to approach the Environmental Protection Agency, something they did not do when the document was prepared in 2004. The BPU document, sent anonymously to The Kansas City Star last week, identifies at least 15 upgrades at power plants that may have violated the law. The document, called a "liability analysis," said the BPU could face thousands of dollars in fines. It is also possible the utility will have to spend millions in mandated upgrades, including additional anti-pollution equipment at the Nearman plant, general manager Don Gray said Wednesday. Depending on the size of the financial crunch, the BPU could be forced to delay plans to build a \$600 million to \$700 million power plant by 2012, officials said.  
Source: <http://www.kansascity.com/mld/kansascity/news/local/16855946.htm>
4. *March 07, Associated Press* — **Ben Franklin Transit to try special fuel.** The bus transit system for the Tri-Cities (Richland, WA) is switching to a new fuel system that uses a blend of biodiesel, ethanol and ultra low sulfur diesel. The two renewable fuels were previously used only as separate fuel supplements. But a process created by O2Diesel of Newark, DE, allows the fuels to be cross-blended with the low sulfur diesel. The fuel consists of 71 percent ULSD, 20 percent biodiesel, and 7.7 percent ethanol. The remainder is O2Diesels patented additive technology, producing a 28 percent reduction in fossil fuel. Ben Franklin Transit will conduct a 210-day operational assessment of the fuel blend in a test fleet of 20 vehicles.  
Source: [http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/local/6420ap\\_wa\\_tri\\_cities\\_transit.html](http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/local/6420ap_wa_tri_cities_transit.html)

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## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

5. *March 09, South Bend Tribune (IN)* — **Diesel fuel spill prompts lane closure.** A diesel fuel spill occurred after a semi-truck driver hit another vehicle and landed in the front yard of a

home in Indiana, say LaPorte County Police. The truck driver, 39-year-old William Hightower of Park Forest, IL, was traveling eastbound on U.S. 20 when he fell asleep at the wheel. The truck crashed into a vehicle driven by a South Bend Tribune newspaper delivery person. Westbound traffic on U.S. 20 was decreased to one lane.

Source: <http://www.southbendtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070309/News01/70309013/-1/News/CAT=NEWS01>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

6. *March 09, Federal Computer Week* — **Army can now jam IEDs without disrupting communications.** With the help of the Navy, the Army is now able to operate improvised explosive device (IED) jammers in Iraq without disrupting its communications equipment, according to a senior Army officer. IED jammers, such as the Counter Radio-Controlled Improvised Explosive Device Electronic Warfare systems, can cause the loss of all communications from co-located or nearby tactical radio systems, Naval Sea Systems Command said. The radio systems also can render the jammers ineffective. Until recently, soldiers in Iraq were turning off the jammers to communicate, said Gen. William Wallace, head of the Army's Training and Doctrine Command. But on his recent trip to the Middle East, Wallace heard no complaints about IED jammers, he said. The Navy experts taught Army soldiers how to remove conflicts from the frequency spectrum so that IED jammers and communications equipment can be used simultaneously in the same environment, Wallace said. IEDs remain the single greatest cause of casualties to U.S. forces in Iraq. The Department of Defense has asked for \$4 billion in funding in its fiscal 2008 budget and \$2.4 billion in its fiscal 2007 supplemental budget to counter the devices.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/article97887-03-09-07-Web>

7. *March 08, Federal Computer Week* — **FCS network will deploy in 2012.** The network for the Army's Future Combat System (FCS) will be deployed in 2012, two years ahead of schedule, because of simplification of the FCS design, according to Claude Bolton, assistant secretary of the Army for acquisitions, logistics and technology. Four of the 18 systems originally envisioned for FCS were eliminated in President Bush's fiscal 2008 Army budget request. The Army removed from FCS the heavy robotic vehicle and Class 2 and Class 3 unmanned aerial vehicles. To offset the robot losses, the Army will upgrade the Class 1 UAV with a laser designator and add more Class four UAVs and Tactical Unmanned Ground Vehicles to the FCS design, Bolton said. The next challenge will be figuring out how to manage the development of the more than 1 billion lines of software code that FCS will need, he said. The Army has been recasting FCS as a system suited for the global war on terror. Three spirals of FCS technology will be incorporated into the fight every two years until the system reaches its initial operating capability in 2014, according to the most recent schedule.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/article97854-03-08-07-Web>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

8. *March 09, Finextra* — **SEC cracks down on spam trading scams.** U.S. regulators have suspended trading in 35 over-the-counter penny stocks that have been the subject of repeated spam e-mail campaigns urging small investors to buy shares. The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) estimates that 100 million of these stock-related spam messages are sent every week, triggering dramatic spikes in share price and trading volume before the spamming stops and investors lose their money. The trading suspensions are part of a broader SEC effort—dubbed "Operation Spamalot"—to protect investors from potentially fraudulent spam e-mail hyping small company stocks with phrases like, "Ready to Explode", "Ride the Bull" and "Fast Money". The securities of each of the 35 banned companies are quoted on the Pink Sheets electronic quotations service. The SEC says recent trading clearly demonstrates how spam campaigns can affect stock prices and trading volume. As well as imposing trading bans the SEC says it is also committed to tracking down those who prey on investors with false or misleading information.  
Source: <http://www.finextra.com/fullstory.asp?id=16631>
9. *March 09, Computerworld* — **SEC freezes \$3M made in hacker stock scam.** A federal judge, acting on behalf of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), has frozen \$3 million belonging to an Eastern European cybercrime gang that allegedly hacked into seven U.S. brokerage firms, then used stolen funds to mount a stock manipulation scheme. According to a complaint filed by the SEC Tuesday, March 7, , the gang's 20 members live in Russia, Latvia, Lithuania and the British Virgin Islands. The frozen assets, which include at least \$733,000 in profits from the scam, are in a Latvian bank. After buying lightly-traded "penny" stocks, the criminals hacked into accounts at a number of online brokerage houses, including Charles Schwab, E\*Trade, Merrill Lynch, TD Ameritrade, Vanguard and others. Securities in those accounts were sold and the proceeds used to buy thousands—and in one case, millions -- of the same shares. That, said the SEC, artificially drove up the price. "Then, at the height of the price surge, the defendants sold in their own accounts their previously-purchased shares of the same stocks at the inflated prices," the complaint read. The scheme went on for at least a year and cost the brokerages about \$2 million in losses before ending in December.  
SEC complaint: <http://www.sec.gov/litigation/complaints/2007/comp20030.pdf>  
Source: [http://computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=standards\\_and\\_legal\\_issues&articleId=9012699&taxonomyId=146](http://computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=standards_and_legal_issues&articleId=9012699&taxonomyId=146)

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

10. *March 10, Associated Press* — **More arrests in airport drug smuggling.** Two more men were arrested in connection with a drug-smuggling ring that bypassed Orlando, FL, airport security to send guns and narcotics to Puerto Rico, according to court documents. Jeffrey Lorenzano Cruz and Joel Eluit Matos Cruz appeared in court Friday, March 9, on drug-related charges, court documents said. The cousins were arrested on Thursday at a Sam's Wholesale Club in Orlando, FL, after Jeffrey Lorenzano Cruz agreed to meet with an undercover agent there to sell drugs and two guns with silencers, the documents said. Earlier this week authorities arrested Thomas Anthony Munoz and Zabdiel J. Santiago Balaguer. The airline baggage handlers used their employee uniforms and airport identification cards to enter restricted areas, avoid security

screeners and carry a bag containing guns and drugs on a commercial flight from Florida, according to court documents released Wednesday. Court documents state Jeffrey Lorenzano Cruz told authorities that Balaguer paid him \$800 to take 20 pounds of marijuana to Puerto Rico in December 2006. He said drugs were received in Puerto Rico about twice a month. Source: <http://www.the-dispatch.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070310/APA/703102385&cachetime=5>

11. **March 10, KOMO (WA) — Suspicious package interrupts Seattle ferry service.** The Ferry Puyallup, which runs from Seattle to Bainbridge Island, was taken out of service on Saturday, March 10, after staff members found a suspicious package on board, ferry officials said. Officials said staff members found a backpack in a garbage can on the solarium deck during routine inspections after Ferry Puyallup unloaded at Bainbridge Island. Ferry Puyallup was taken out of service while officers conduct a thorough security sweep. The Washington State Patrol is investigating the case. Source: <http://www.komotv.com/news/local/6422567.html>
12. **March 10, WAVY TV10 (VA) — Norfolk arrival terminal closed due to suspicious bag.** The arrival terminal at Norfolk International Airport was shut down on Saturday, March 10, while the city's bomb disposal team checked out a suspicious piece of luggage. On a normal day, passengers wait for their luggage inside the terminal at the Norfolk International Airport. An airport spokesperson said security cleared the arrival terminal after a bag with an unknown haze or smoke coming from it was discovered on a conveyer belt. Emergency workers in shiny silver suits with air tanks strapped to their backs went inside the terminal to investigate. The airport officials believe the smoky haze coming from the bag was the result of careless packing. This situation has not delayed any flights leaving from the airport. Source: <http://www.wavy.com/Global/story.asp?S=6208898&nav=23ii>
13. **March 09, Gannett News Service — Amtrak may expand with federal funds.** States could receive millions of dollars from Washington beginning next year — for the first time — to run more trains between cities within 400 miles of each other. That's because Congress and the White House are in rare agreement that it makes sense to expand Amtrak service where demand is the greatest. Congress and President Bush are proposing giving states grants to increase service on rail corridors linking about 50 major cities such as Los Angeles and Oakland; Indianapolis and Cincinnati; Houston and New Orleans; and Chicago and Milwaukee. Many urban corridors are setting ridership records because people want an alternative to driving on congested highways or flying out of crowded airports, advocates say. Frank Busalacchi, chairman of the 29-member States for Passenger Rail Coalition, said federal lawmakers in the past expressed support for intercity passenger rail but failed to provide money to supplement the millions states already pay Amtrak to increase service between select cities in one state or those in adjoining states. Amtrak President Alex Kummant told a Senate subcommittee that intercity rail is essential to helping the railroad grow. "State corridors are very much the future," he testified. Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-03-09-amtrak\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-03-09-amtrak_N.htm)
14. **March 08, Gov Exec — As FAA seeks to add controllers, union seeks contract.** As Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officials issued a new plan to hire more air traffic controllers, a labor representative told lawmakers Thursday, March 8, that the agency won't be able to



maintain adequate staffing levels unless it negotiates a new contract with controllers. "Without a concerted effort to attract experienced controllers and retain our current workforce, the Air Traffic Controllers system will continue to lose controllers, and that will mean flight delays, runway incursions and increased chance of aviation disasters," said Patrick Forrey, president of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA). He testified at a hearing held by the Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Aviation. "Though the FAA continually refers to a contract," he said, "the truth is that NATCA [members], including air traffic controllers, engineers, test pilots, nurses, lawyers and others, are working under imposed work and pay rules. This is not a contract." Lawmakers did not pledge action on the matter, but said they would follow up with several hearings on the reauthorization of the FAA, including several that will focus on the agency's budget and modernization. NATCA spokesperson Doug Church said that one hearing will be devoted to the controller staffing issue.

Source: [http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=36305&dcn=to daysnews](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36305&dcn=to%20daysnews)

15. *March 08, Gov Exec* — **Coast Guard aims to hire more contract oversight officials.** Coast Guard officials said Thursday, March 8, they want to hire more personnel to prevent potential lapses in contract management similar to those that have been exposed in the Deepwater fleet modernization project. Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Thad Allen told lawmakers at a House hearing that he is seeking a senior manager with military experience to oversee the \$24 billion program to replace or upgrade aging equipment. "We're going to be fine," Allen reassured members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure subcommittee overseeing the Coast Guard. Lawmakers pointed out that the agency's staffing has increased 18 percent since it took on new responsibilities when it became part of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in 2003. But they said this increase is not enough. Citing the "27 new functions" thrust upon the Coast Guard in DHS, Rep. James Oberstar, D-MN, said the agency needs "to increase personnel and funding for personnel."

Source: [http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=36314&dcn=to daysnews](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36314&dcn=to%20daysnews)

16. *March 08, USA TODAY* — **Big rigs may get speed control.** Federal transportation officials are weighing a proposal to require devices on commercial trucks that would limit their top speeds to 68 mph. The idea is supported by many large trucking companies and opposed by many smaller, independent carriers. The campaign to equip tractor-trailers with the speed controls is led by Road Safe America, an advocacy group founded by an Atlanta couple whose son died in a 2002 accident involving a big rig. The Department of Transportation is accepting public comments on the proposal until March 27. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) will have the final say. NHTSA studied the idea in 1991 and said it wasn't needed. The 15-member board of directors of the Governors Highway Safety Association, which advises the states on traffic safety issues, voted unanimously this week to support the proposal, says spokesperson Jonathan Adkins. "This is a very reasonable proposal," he says. "Speed's a neglected highway safety issue across the board." Most independent truckers oppose the idea because it would force them to drive slower than the rate of traffic on many highways, says Todd Spencer, executive vice president of the Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association, which has 150,000 members, most of them small-business truckers.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-03-08-trucks-speed-control\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-03-08-trucks-speed-control_N.htm)

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Agriculture Sector**

17. *March 09, Agricultural Research Service* — **Scientists find root accomplice in beet virus infection.** The beet necrotic yellow vein virus (BNYVV) has long been thought to act alone in inflicting rhizomania, one of the costliest diseases of sugarbeets. But it may actually have a partner in crime, Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists now suspect. Rhizomania, also known as "crazy root," causes a thick "beard" of feathery hairs to sprout from the taproot of infected sugarbeets. Severe outbreaks can diminish sucrose yields by as much as 40 percent. In October 2005, ARS plant pathologist John Weiland noticed something odd while examining diseased specimens. Although most of the plants sported the telltale beard, the BNYVV was nowhere to be found — at least, not according an antibody-based test he used. In follow-up studies, Weiland inoculated a common weed and a sugarbeet hybrid with extracts from the infected root specimens. Yellow lesions appeared on the leaves in five days—sooner than would have occurred if rhizomania were the culprit. Hexagonal particles within the cytoplasm of the plant cells revealed a mystery virus. By teasing out the virus' genome and sequencing it, Weiland conducted a search of viral genomes for a match. The match was the beet black scorch virus, known to occur only in China.

Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=1261>

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## **Food Sector**

18. *March 11, Chicago Tribune* — **Peanut butter recall backdated to 2004.** ConAgra Foods Inc. has extended its recall of all peanut butter produced at a plant in Georgia by more than a year, back to October 2004. The recall covers all Peter Pan peanut butter and all Great Value peanut butter beginning with product code 2111. The initial recall by ConAgra, issued February 14, applied to all Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter made since December 2005.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-0703110408mar11.1.2707612.story?coll=chi-newsnationworld-hed>

19. *March 09, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **Dog treats recalled.** BJ's Wholesale Club, Inc. is recalling its 25-count packages of "Berkley & Jensen" Full-Cut Pig Ears dog treats because they have the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella, an organism which can cause serious infections in dogs, and, if there is cross contamination, young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Confirmatory testing is ongoing. There have been no confirmed illnesses to date. These products have been removed from sale while the problem is being investigated.

Source: [http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/bj03\\_07.html](http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/bj03_07.html)

20. *March 08, U.S. Food and drug Administration* — **Olives recalled.** Flora Foods of Pompano Beach, FL, is recalling its "Cerignola Olives" because they have the potential to be contaminated with *Clostridium botulinum*, a bacterium which can cause life-threatening illness or death. The recalled "Cerignola" olives were distributed in Florida, Georgia and upstate New York in retail stores. No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with this problem. The potential for contamination was noted after routine testing found that the product had been underprocessed.  
Source: [http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/flora03\\_07.html](http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/flora03_07.html)

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## **Water Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Public Health Sector**

21. *March 11, Reuters* — **Egyptian child tests positive for bird flu.** A four-year-old Egyptian boy has contracted the H5N1 bird flu virus, bringing to 24 the number of Egyptians who have tested positive for the disease, Health Ministry and World Health Organization (WHO) officials said on Sunday, March 11. The ministry said Mohamed Mahmoud Ibrahim from the Nile Delta province of Dakahlia had fallen ill with the H5N1 virus after coming into contact with infected poultry. Hassan el-Bushra, regional adviser for communicable disease surveillance for the WHO, said Ibrahim had started to show symptoms on Wednesday, March 7, and was hospitalized a day later with a high fever. Egypt has the largest known bird flu cluster outside Asia, with 13 deaths out of the 24 reported human cases.  
Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L11136308.htm>

22. *March 11, Associated Press* — **U.S. struggles with bioterror defenses.** More than five years after the September 11 attacks, the government cannot show how the five billion dollars given to public health departments has better prepared the country for a bioterrorism attack or flu pandemic. Congress responded to the 2001 strikes and anthrax-tainted letters sent to lawmakers by putting much more money toward emergency preparedness. State health departments typically get tens of millions of dollars per year to prepare for bioterrorism; it was in the hundreds of thousands before September 11. The money came with a catch: Washington had to set criteria to evaluate how well the dollars were spent. That assignment fell to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which has struggled with the task. "We're not able to demonstrate accountability," said Craig Thomas, chief of the CDC office that evaluates and monitors public health departments. "It's not just accountability to the CDC. It's accountability to your community. It's accountability to your local stakeholders and the people who fund you as well." Thomas was speaking to public health leaders at a recent conference. His assessment does not mean local departments have squandered the money. It is, however, an acknowledgment the CDC relies on anecdotal evidence to demonstrate the improvement.  
Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070311/ap\\_on\\_go\\_ca\\_st\\_pe/bioterrorism\\_preparedness:ylt=Aq9meE1AKaDg3KLzRXmKA5Z24cA](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070311/ap_on_go_ca_st_pe/bioterrorism_preparedness:ylt=Aq9meE1AKaDg3KLzRXmKA5Z24cA)



23. *March 10, Boston Globe* — **Key clue found to outbreaks of the norovirus.** Scientists have discovered that a new strain of norovirus is responsible for the wave of intense gastrointestinal infections that have overwhelmed hospitals, nursing homes, and college dormitories across New England and the nation this winter. The finding provides an important clue to the severity and breadth of this season's outbreak, which has alarmed disease specialists because so many adults and children have become so sick. Knowing that few people had previously been exposed to the strain, researchers assume virtually everyone is vulnerable to the germ. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention expects to officially report its findings on the new form of the virus in coming weeks. Genetic fingerprinting shows that the virus infecting patients is distinct and aggressive: When the CDC tested stool specimens from October through December, 60 percent of those patients were positive for the new form of norovirus.

Source: [http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2007/03/10/illnesses\\_traced\\_to\\_a\\_new\\_strain/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2007/03/10/illnesses_traced_to_a_new_strain/)

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## **Government Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

24. *March 08, Federal Computer Week* — **Pennsylvania chooses PKI to manage first-responder access cards.** Pennsylvania has chosen a public-key infrastructure (PKI) to manage its digital certificates for First Responder Authentication Cards (FRACs). FRACs are issued specifically to emergency response personnel. They would allow first responders to enter government buildings and secure areas in situations such as natural disasters or terrorist attacks. The initiative is designed to remedy access problems such as those state and local emergency officials encountered responding to the 2001 attack on the Pentagon, according to the Homeland Security Department. The standardized digital infrastructure will help the state manage first responders and allow officials to adjust to emergencies by distributing personnel where they're needed most.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/article97851-03-08-07-Web>

25. *March 08, Government Technology* — **Report finds states leading the charge for improved public safety communications.** As federal policymakers are mired in debate over nearly a dozen communications interoperability proposals, the First Response Coalition (FRC) today released a new report highlighting numerous states that have leapfrogged national interoperability efforts by employing unique funding structures, maximizing available spectrum, and connecting stakeholders through effective governance systems. The report concludes these best practices should be promoted nationwide, coupled with increased federal funding. The public safety communications networks in Colorado, Utah, and Nevada are given high marks and their under-publicized successes should be shared nationwide. Colorado employs a Public Safety Trust Fund to pay for the hybrid 700/800 MHz public safety

communications network. Utah's UCAN network has been in place for years, provides interoperability coverage for 85 percent of the state's population, and handled all communications for the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics. Nevada connected the state's four distinct trunked radio systems into one "virtual" network that utilizes 700 MHz, 800 MHz, and 150 MHz radio systems. Other unique state interoperability solutions identified by the FRC include Virginia's statewide governance structure, Indiana's motor vehicle surcharge for public safety communications, and Texas' IP-based VIDA network.

Report: [http://www.firstresponsecoalition.org/docs/FRC\\_State\\_Interoperability\\_Report\\_030707\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.firstresponsecoalition.org/docs/FRC_State_Interoperability_Report_030707_FINAL.pdf)

Source: <http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=104295>

26. *March 08, Boston Globe* — **FBI's Boston office plans antiterror workshops.** Every police chief in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Maine, from the smallest hamlets to the biggest cities, will be getting an offer from the FBI to attend counterterrorism workshops aimed at creating a network of officers trained to detect potential threats, according to Warren T. Bamford, the special agent in charge of the FBI's Boston, MA, office. "If we're going to stop a terrorist attack, the person it's going to be stopped by is a police officer or citizen on the street who makes a call when things don't look right," Bamford said. Bamford said his plan, currently in its infancy, is to invite a police officer, analyst, or representative from every police department in the four-state region covered by the FBI's Boston office to attend one- or two-day workshops in which presentations would be made by counterterrorism specialists.

Source: [http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2007/03/08/hubs\\_fb\\_i\\_boss\\_plans\\_antiterror\\_workshops/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2007/03/08/hubs_fb_i_boss_plans_antiterror_workshops/)

27. *March 08, Reuters* — **Cubans sneak ashore during U.S. security drill.** While hundreds of U.S. law enforcement agents intercepted imaginary Cuban migrants during a massive training exercise in south Florida, two boatloads of actual Cubans sneaked ashore on Miami Beach on Thursday, March 8. Boaters dropped off 21 Cuban migrants at a popular nudist beach and left 19 others on another beach a few hours later, the Border Patrol said. Both vessels escaped. "It's our belief that they were the result of organized smuggling," Border Patrol spokesperson Steve McDonald said. The Cubans arrived on day two of a training exercise to test "Operation Vigilant Sentry," the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's plan to halt a possible mass migration from the Caribbean. About 325 agents from 85 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies took part in the exercise, which ended on Thursday. The training scenario envisioned a mass exodus of Cubans fleeing violence after their government fell, with Florida boaters headed south to pick up relatives and a deadly virus spreading among 2,000 migrants intercepted at sea.

Source: [http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=domesticNews&storyid=2007-03-08T215658Z\\_01\\_N08302135\\_RTRUKOC\\_0\\_US-US-A-CUBA-BOATLIFT.xml&src=rss&rpc=22](http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=domesticNews&storyid=2007-03-08T215658Z_01_N08302135_RTRUKOC_0_US-US-A-CUBA-BOATLIFT.xml&src=rss&rpc=22)

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## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

28. *March 09, SC Magazine* — **Apple issues AirPort Extreme patch.** Apple has issued a fix for its wireless networking solution, AirPort Extreme, to complement a similar patch delivered

earlier this year. The update, released Thursday, March 8, corrects a vulnerability involving an out-of-bounds memory read error that could occur when processing wireless frames. "An attacker in local proximity may be able to trigger a system crash by sending a maliciously crafted frame to an affected system," according to an Apple advisory. The flaw impacts the Core Duo version of Mac mini, MacBook and MacBook Prop computers that run on a wireless connection. Core 2 Duo versions are not affected.

Apple advisory: <http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=305031>

Source: <http://scmagazine.com/us/news/article/642893/apple-issues-ai-rport-extreme-patch/>

## Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

**29. *March 10, Louisville Courier-Journal (KY)* — New dam at Wolf Creek studied.** Even as it moves toward installing a massive wall inside the longest portion of Kentucky's leaky Wolf Creek Dam, the Army Corps of Engineers confirmed on Friday, March 9, that it's also considering an alternative plan — replacing that part with a new concrete structure. It's an idea that an independent peer-review panel recommended in recent months — and is similar to one the corps rejected as too expensive two years ago. The panel has said replacing the 4,000-foot-long earthen portion of the dam may be a better long-term solution than constructing a 275-foot-deep wall inside that section, as the corps previously said it would do, corps officials said. "That's probably where they are coming from," said Mike Zoccola, dam safety and civil design branch chief for the corps' Nashville District, which manages the dam and Lake Cumberland behind it. The structure would connect the east side of the Cumberland River bank to the existing concrete portion of the dam, covering land now occupied by a national fish hatchery, a recreation area and other dam facilities, Zoccola said. And it could take 10 to 15 years to build, he added.

Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070310/NEWS01/703100439>

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## General Sector

**30. *March 08, New York Times* — Sailor started e-mail on terror, U.S. says.** When Hassan Abujihaad was a sailor on a U.S. Navy destroyer in 2001, federal prosecutors said, he began exchanging e-mail messages with a man who ran an Internet site seeking to raise money for terrorist causes. Abujihaad initially contacted the administrators of the Website to buy DVDs that promoted Muslim separatist fighting in Chechnya and elsewhere, the authorities said. But

in 2001, he shared information about his ship's whereabouts and vulnerabilities, according to a complaint filed by the Department of Justice. Now, Abujihaad, 31, is accused of supporting terrorism with the intent to kill American citizens and with transmitting classified information to unauthorized recipients. He was arrested and charged in Phoenix, AZ, on Wednesday, March 7, and will be transferred to Connecticut, where his case is part of larger investigation of a suspected terrorist network based in Britain. According to the U.S. attorney's office in New Haven, the Website that Abujihaad contacted was run by Babar Ahmad, a British citizen. In 2004, Ahmad was indicted by a federal grand jury for arranging the purchase of potential terrorist tools. Abujihaad is accused of giving information that enabled Ahmad to create maps of Navy battle groups and make plans for attacking them using small weapons.

Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/09/us/09spy.html?\\_r=2&oref=sl\\_ogin&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/09/us/09spy.html?_r=2&oref=sl_ogin&oref=slogin)

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